

BARNs

Continued from Page A1

textural style so you can talk about it with craftsmen, how to plan a long-term restoration and even where funding might be found to help with restoration.

Dick and Jan Boucher were surprised at what they learned about the style of their barn and are now enthused about learning more — including more about their granary, which may be of even more historic interest.

“I think it may be the most interesting of the buildings,” said Jan. “I’m told it may have had a milling wheel called a Pelican wheel and that may still be buried down there in the mud. I don’t even know what a Pelican wheel is.”

“We’re interested in the barns in the county and seeing them preserved,” said Dick. “We’ve tried to keep our barn up, but we’re not in a position to think of (repurposing it as) a bed and breakfast or anything like that.”

Many barn owners have created wedding venues. A barn is often a repurpose rather than a returning-to-museum-quality project.

“We’re not trying to freeze something in amber,” said Peggy Moretti, Executive Director of Restore Oregon. “It’s about activity and more about moving forward than looking back.”

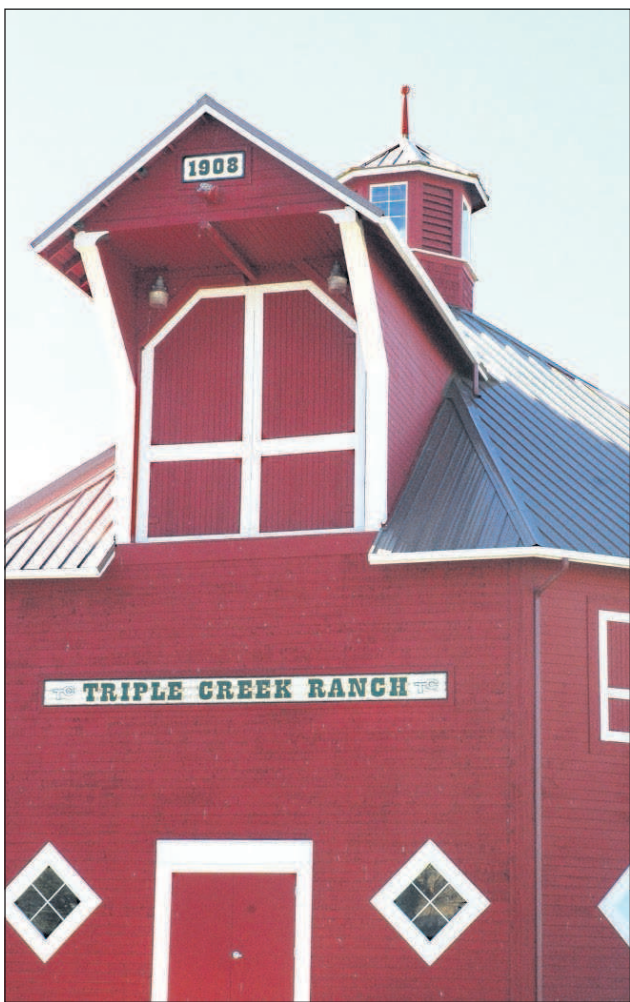
For that reason, barn owners are encouraged to look “outside the box” for ideas to preserve and repurpose their barns in ways that contribute to their bottom line. Some have had success turning their barns into venues for events, such as the Nancy Knoble’s Blue Barn Farm outside Joseph.

Others have put their barns back into agricultural use with a few interior modifications. The Bouchers removed the center rafters in their 1914 barn to allow a hay truck to back in some years ago.

They then installed cables and turnbuckles to help the new higher rafters do their job of holding the barn together. Now that they don’t use the barn for hay storage, they could return it to the original loft if they chose.

Though restoration work can be expensive, it is generally less costly than building a new barn. And many families choose to restore their barn in phases to limit initial outlay.

“Barns are pretty adaptable buildings,” said Aaron Smith, Heritage Farm Task-



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

The beautifully kept Triple Creek Ranch octagonal barn on Tucker Down Road in Joseph.

force preservation carpenter. “Tight grain old growth Doug fir beams are not going to fail in our lifetime if they are kept dry.”

A preservation contractor can help barn owners create a prioritized list, which is also essential to keep bidders on task and on plan.

The preservation toolkit is available online at restoreoregon.org.

Many barn owners also want to see the original architectural plans of their barn. Although the bulk of barns were designed by itinerant barn builders and architects, barn plans may also be standard Sears, Montgomery Wards, lumberyard plan services and Extension Offices plans, some of which can still be found.

Although all attendees were interested in funding sources, few were counting on grants, which is a good thing; other states support barn restoration with millions of dollars, Oregon has few and small grants available. Nevertheless, going after restoration money was explored and for those interested, seeking partnerships with city or county programs was emphasized.

Lack of state and federal support will not deter most Eastern Oregon barn-owners, who were restoring their

barns for their own reasons: historical value, pride of place, family pride, establishing a legacy or to put a valuable asset back in production as part of the farm.

“The benefits to the barn owner and the community are multiple,” said Peggy Moretti, Executive Director of Restore Oregon. “Not only do revitalized historical building attract heritage tourists, they are part of what makes a community livable and foster a sense of community and pride.”

In Wallowa County, barn owners are able to work with the same agricultural “tools” their grandparents used, maintaining their tie to their family history through their barns.

The workshop was presented by Restore Oregon in partnership with the Eastern Oregon Visitors Association, Oregon State University Extension, Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce, Wallowa County Grain Growers, and Baker County Tourism.

Information has been collected for the Wallowa County Barn Tour Book III to be published in 2018, and the Northeast Oregon Agritourism Committee of Eastern Oregon Visitors Association has submitted a grant to Travel Oregon to pay for the printing.

Outdoor School will be receiving state funding

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Students in fourth through sixth grade across Wallowa County are enjoying four days of Outdoor School this year. What’s different about it is that for the first time, the program is being substantially supported by state money through Measure 99.

Thanks to a historic partnership with Wallowa Resources, Wallowa County schools have enjoyed Outdoor School uninterrupted since 2005. Students benefited from the Outdoor Wallowa Learning program and Wallowa Resources also expanded the age group of students served to include fourth grade. Wallowa Resources is continuing to use its own grant funds from various family foundations to pay for 4th grade students.

How much the three districts, who applied jointly for the state funding, will receive won’t be known until December, according to state officials. Applications are due by Nov. 14.

“We anticipate the review process will take two to three weeks and will be followed by notifications to each applicant regarding their specific award amounts, which will be based on their estimated number of participants,” said Kristopher M. Elliott, Outdoor School Program Leader for Oregon Department of Education. “The final dollar amount will be funded at the completion of each school’s program and a final report, which will include the actual numbers, dictating the actual funding.”

Measure 99 mandates spending up to \$22 million from the state lottery Economic Development Fund for roughly 50,000 students

Voters approved the measure in 2016. Prior to passage, participation in Outdoor School varied by district. Programs were popular in the ‘50s, but by 2016, around half of districts had dropped it due to budget constraints.



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Maddex Kendall, 10, and Chance Penda-rui, 12, prepare to take notes for their nature journals at the OWL Outdoor School for Wallowa School District.

In the Wallowa County version, groups of students learn about plant communities, macroinvertebrates, river structure, riparian vegetation, grassland and juniper landscapes and sense of place. Students create nature journals recording scientific, mathematical measurements and observations as well as considering the interaction of humans in the landscape.

Organizers say by learning more about the careers and journals of famous naturalists, conservationists and activists such as John Muir and Terry Tempest Williams, they are able to put the value of nature journals into perspective and see how they are important to larger work in various fields.

Wallowa County residents approved the measure overwhelmingly, 2,307-1,888. High approval rates in western counties drove the percentage of approval statewide to 66.6 percent.

Wallowa and Enterprise students have already had their Outdoor School this session fall; Joseph Charter will hold spring sessions.

Elliott said all three districts would be eligible for funding this year.

SMOOTHIES

Continued from Page A1

so the district can have equipment or whatever they need,” Bloom said.

A new drinking fountain and water bottle refill stations were also purchased with grant money as well as funds from Soroptimist International.

This grant was part of a FuelUp2Play60 request to the Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council in Portland.

“The kids like the smoothies because they taste good,” Bloom said. “Parents and teachers like them, I think, because the kids get in an extra serving of fruits and vegetables without even really knowing they are eating something healthy for them.”

The smoothie machine is pressed into action several days each week primarily for breakfast and occasionally for lunch. DeVore, who has been with the district four years but has nearly two decades of experience as school cook, mixes the fruit or veggie of the day with

a product known as YoCream, produced by Dannon. It’s mostly nonfat milk but also has live and active cultures like yogurt.

“Just about anything will work,” said DeVore, who has regularly used berries, oranges, pears, pineapple and even graham crackers. Kale produced an appropriately green concoction that students eyed warily before imbibing.

Bloom said the Popeye Power Smoothie — made with spinach, of course — adds pineapple, orange juice or a banana to the mix as a disguise.

A gallon and a half of mixture makes 40 four-ounce servings, which is what elementary students receive. High schoolers get seven-ounce servings.

Any leftovers are frozen for later consumption.

Imbler schools have also discovered smoothies are a hit.

“Our goal was to entice more secondary students to eat breakfast,” said Imbler Supt. of Schools Angie Lakey-Campbell. “We believe smoothies provide them with a quick easy

breakfast that they can eat on the go if they need to.”

It’s also economical.

“It allows us to use products in our school lunch program that we would otherwise find difficult to use,” she said. “For example, we serve frozen strawberries in our salad bar. When the berries thaw, there is a great deal of juice that comes with them. The juice works great as part of the smoothie mix.”

Besides the obvious nutritional value, Uptmor said he likes the smoothies because they’re fun.

“That’s kind of been a theme for us this year,” he said. “It’s a bit of a departure in the way things are normally done and the staff, teachers and students have accepted it well.”

Wallowa spends around \$113,000 annually for food service. There are nearly 200 students enrolled in K-12. Uptmor said not all students take part in the hot lunch program. Meals often include freshly baked bread.

Much of the funding is from federal and state coffers.

WALLOWA COUNTY
Health Line

MD TIVATIONS
Fitness Center, LLC

Keycode Entry
Weight Room • Cardio
Women’s Circuit • Tanning
202 W. Main, Enterprise
541-426-0313

Wallowa Valley Eye Care

519 W. North Street, Enterprise
541.426.3413
Mon-Thurs 9 to Noon/1-5pm; Fri. 9-1

Wallowa County
Health Department

758 NW 1st Street, Enterprise, OR
(541) 426-4848

We offer services to all ages and income levels including: WIC, family planning, immunizations, flu shots, restaurant and hotel licensing, community tobacco prevention and education, chronic disease prevention. We provide equal opportunity programs.

LEARN HOW TO KEEP THE FARM IN YOUR FAMILY.

Transitioning your family farm or ranch to the next generation can be overwhelming without a solid plan in place. Learn the key components that you need to know now to make sure your farm stays in the family! Call us toll-free now to reserve a place at your preferred location and time. Family members and guests are welcome but space is limited.

CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR RESERVATION!
541-728-0873

During the workshop, you will learn ...

- How to minimize the impact of inheritance and death taxes on a family farm or ranch.
- What mistakes your neighbors are making that you can avoid.
- How to equitably transfer assets to both your farming and non-farming beneficiaries, and much more!
- About solutions to challenges that are unique to farmers and ranchers.
- How to preserve and protect your assets for the next generation.

LA GRANDE, OR
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25TH
6:30 PM
TEN DEPOT STREET
10 DEPOT STREET

ENTERPRISE, OR
THURSDAY, OCT. 26TH
6:30 PM
WILDERNESS INN
301 W. NORTH STREET

Northwest FARMER-STOCKMAN, INC.
www.farmerstockmaninsurance.com

FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR FARMERS AND RANCHERS

ESTATE PLANNING | WEALTH PRESERVATION AND TRANSFER
ANNUITIES | LIFE & LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE | MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT, CANCER AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Wallowology!
at Wallowa Lake Lodge

Sunday, October 29th
Family Halloween Celebration
All Events Free of Charge

2-5 pm

Kiddie Hay Maze, Bingo, Caramel Apples, Bobbing for Apples, Mummy Wrap Game, Haunted House and More!
Come in Costume!

Wallowa Lake Lodge
HAUNTED HOUSE

What really goes on upstairs at night?
Local businesses know and invite you to
COME UPSTAIRS ... if you DARE!

2-5 pm

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

Moths, Bats, Flying Squirrels, Owls & Spiders
Special adaptations of nocturnal creatures for getting food, avoiding predation, and keeping warm in the dark hours

Dr. Karen Antell
Professor of Biology, EOU

5-6 pm • Wallowa Lake Lodge Lobby

Wallowology! Natural History Discovery Center
508 N. Main • Joseph • wallowology.org

UMPOUA B•A•N•K